

I CLAIM:

1 1. A contact assembly for a contact blade, the
2 assembly comprising
3 two outer sheet-metal combs of generally identical
4 shape and each unitarily formed with
5 a longitudinally throughgoing base strip lying in
6 a respective base plane and having a pair of
7 longitudinal edges and
8 a plurality of forks each having a pair of contact
9 arms projecting transversely from one of the
10 edges of the respective base strip generally
11 parallel to each other and to the respective
12 base plane, the arms of each fork being
13 spaced transversely of the respective base
14 plane from each other and defining a mouth
15 open parallel to the respective base plane
16 away from the respective one edge,
17 the base strips being transversely juxtaposed with the mouths
18 aligned and forming a blade-receiving slot open parallel to the
19 base planes and with the forks of one of the combs interleaved
20 with the forks of the other of the combs.

1 2. The contact assembly defined in claim 1 wherein one
2 of the combs is formed with a plurality of contact tabs
3 projecting from the other of the edges of the respective base
4 strip.

1 3. The contact assembly defined in claim 2 wherein the
2 contact tabs project generally perpendicular to the respective
3 base planes.

1 4. The contact assembly defined in claim 1 further
2 comprising
3 a middle sheet-metal comb generally identical to the
4 first inner combs and sandwiched therebetween with the forks of
5 the middle comb interleaved with the forks of the outer combs.

1 5. The contact assembly defined in claim 4 wherein the
2 outer combs are both formed at their other edges with contact
3 tabs.

1 6. The contact assembly defined in claim 4 wherein the
2 outer combs are mirror symmetrical to each other.

1 7. The contact assembly defined in claim 1 wherein the
2 forks lie in respective fork planes extending generally
3 perpendicular to the respective main planes.

1 8. The contact assembly defined in claim 1 wherein
2 each of the combs is unitarily formed with respective twisted
3 webs extending between the forks and the respective one
4 longitudinal edge.

1 9. The contact assembly defined in claim 8 wherein the
2 forks each include a base web between the respective arms and the
3 respective twisted webs and the twisted webs extend offcenter
4 from the respective base webs.

1 10. The contact assembly defined in claim 1 wherein
2 the base strips are each formed between the forks with
3 throughgoing weakening apertures, whereby the base strips can
4 easily be cut at the apertures.

1 11. The contact assembly defined in claim 1, further
2 comprising
3 means fixing the base strips to each other.

1 12. The contact assembly defined in claim 1 wherein
2 the base strips and fingers are of the same thickness.

1 13. A contact assembly for a contact blade, the
2 assembly comprising
3 two outer and one middle sheet-metal combs of similar
4 construction and each unitarily formed with
5 a longitudinally throughgoing base strip lying in
6 a respective base plane and having a pair of
7 longitudinal edges,
8 a plurality of forks lying in respective base
9 planes perpendicular to the base planes and
10 each having a pair of contact arms projecting
11 transversely from one of the edges of the
12 respective base strip generally parallel to
13 each other and to the respective base plane,
14 the arms of each fork being spaced
15 transversely of the respective base plane
16 from each other and defining a mouth open
17 parallel to the respective base plane away
18 from the respective one edge, and
19 respective twisted webs connecting the respective
20 forks with the respective one edge,
21 the base strips being transversely juxtaposed with the mouths
22 aligned and forming a blade-receiving slot open parallel to the
23 base planes and with the forks of one of the combs interleaved
24 with the forks of the other of the combs.